

January 2003

## I-5 Realignment at the San Ysidro Port of Entry Improvement (El Chaparral U.S.)

### ■ OVERALL GOALS

- Improve mobility of goods and people across Port of Entry.
- Improve security operations with minimum of reduction in crossing time.
- Improve motorized and non-motorized vehicular and pedestrian access to the Port of Entry.

### ■ PROJECT PROPOSAL

Federal GSA is proposing improving the facilities at the San Ysidro Port of Entry to improve security inspection operations for southbound lanes and expand services for north and southbound lanes. Interstate 5 (I-5) will require modification depending upon the alternative selected during the environmental analysis and review process. Proposals range from the minor improvement to the existing facility to a relocation of the southbound lanes to the west. The proposed relocation has two possible configurations for access by I-5. The "hook" alternative requires a right turn immediately south of Camino de la Plaza and goes westward approximately a 1/4 mile to El Chaparral U.S. The "straight" access requires a realignment of I-5 to the west immediately south of the I-5 and I-805 split, new bridge construction and reconstruction of Camino de la Plaza are required.

### ■ SCHEDULE/COST

As the range of alternatives are so wide the estimate for the highway element of this project is from around \$6 million, for the hook alternative to near \$70 million for the "straight" alternative.

Federal GSA is managing the environmental phase with a draft document completed early in 2003. GSA has submitted an initial funding request to Congress in anticipation of design and construction. Construction is planned to begin in 2006. The highway element currently has \$1.97 million TEA 21 CBI Grant and \$10 million in Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) funds available. Caltrans is maintaining active coordination with Federal GSA to develop concurrent schedules so the new Port of Entry will open as soon as possible. GSA is coordinating with Caltrans in the preparation of a Federal and State Environmental Document. This phase of the project is ongoing.

### ■ TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT

The improvement of the San Ysidro Port of Entry will facilitate implementation of increased security operation for all lanes of traffic coming into and out of the United States of America. Improvement of the crossing facilities will add southbound lanes for bicycles, buses and the possible addition of the Secure Electronic Network For Travelers Rapid Inspection (SENTRI) system to facilitate movement of goods and people. Modification of the crossing system will also provide improved pedestrian and various transit facilities in the Port of Entry area west of the current I-5.